



4 November 2020

Following the government announcement that in England colleges will remain open during the forthcoming lockdown, UNISON's Further Education and 6th Form Colleges Committee agreed the following statement:

We support our teaching colleagues with their calls for learning to be moved online where possible. College sites should remain open for learners who are vulnerable, those whose courses require on-site attendance and those who do not have access to suitable technology/connectivity or a quiet place to learn at home. Colleges should provide laptops and dongles to any learner who does not have these facilities at home to enable them to work remotely.

Any clinically vulnerable staff should be able to work from home or if this is not possible then they should be furloughed on full pay. Anyone who is extremely clinically vulnerable, or who cares for someone who is must work from home or be furloughed on full pay.

Colleges are vital to the economic recovery and no-one should lose their job or their income due to the impact of the lockdown.